

Aid to Indigents (General Relief)

DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR SERVICES

The county is mandated to provide subsistence in the form of cash aid for food, shelter, and transportation to indigents who do not meet categorical eligibility requirements for state and federally funded programs. These general relief payments facilitate transition to an employable status and provide interim assistance pending receipt of SSI benefits. Services and supplies consist of a fixed amount contract with a law firm to assist clients in preparing applications for Social Security Insurance (SSI) benefits. Other revenue represents retroactive SSI payments, which the county receives as reimbursement for general relief assistance provided to SSI eligible indigents prior to their enrollment in the SSI program.

There is no staffing associated with this budget unit.

BUDGET AND WORKLOAD HISTORY

| | Actual 2002-03 | Budget 2003-04 | Estimate 2003-04 | Proposed 2004-05 |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total Appropriation | 1,335,768 | 1,275,123 | 1,544,446 | 1,361,560 |
| Departmental Revenue | 360,467 | 330,986 | 337,161 | 342,470 |
| Local Cost | 975,301 | 944,137 | 1,207,285 | 1,019,090 |

Workload Indicators

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Individuals served per month | 426 | 415 | 496 | 445 |
| Average monthly grant per person | \$261 | \$252 | \$256 | \$252 |

The July 2003 to March 2004 caseload and expenditure trends have increased by 32% in comparison to monthly data during the previous year. Based on actual monthly costs from January 2003 to March 2004, projected costs for the remainder of FY 2003-04 indicate a potential over expenditure of \$269,323.

Reasons for the increasing caseload include the following:

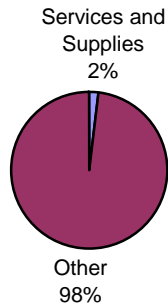
- CalWORKs clients reaching 5-year limit on aid
- Population increase in our County and the availability of cheaper housing (including shared living arrangements)
- Clients are staying on aid longer because of changes to SSI rules, i.e. those with substance abuse problems (drugs, alcohol) are not eligible for SSI unless they are in a treatment program
- Clients are also staying on aid longer because of the lengthy appeals process for their specific case situations (some clients have been in the appeals process since 2002)

Revenue collections for the first 9 months of FY 2003-04 appear to be slightly more than anticipated. The revenue collection represents retroactive SSI payments the County receives as reimbursement from eligible indigents prior to their enrollment in SSI. Based on actual monthly revenue from January 2003 to March 2004, projected revenue for the remainder of FY 2003-04 indicate a potential increase of \$6,175.

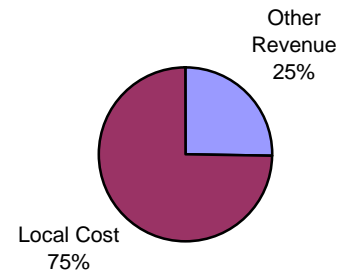
As a result of higher than anticipated expenses (offset by an increase in revenue collection), the net impact on County local cost is projected to exceed budget by \$263,148 for Aid to Indigents. However, due to expected savings in other subsistence budget units, HSS is not expected to exceed its overall budgeted local cost.



2004-05 BREAKDOWN BY APPROPRIATION



2004-05 BREAKDOWN BY FINANCING SOURCE



GROUP: Human Services System
DEPARTMENT: Aid to Indigents
FUND: General

BUDGET UNIT: AAA ATI
FUNCTION: Public Assistance
ACTIVITY: General Relief

ANALYSIS OF 2004-05 BUDGET

| | A | B | C | D | E | B+C+D+E F | G | F+G H |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | 2003-04 Year-End Estimates | 2003-04 Final Budget | Cost to Maintain Current Program Services (Schedule A) | Board Approved Adjustments (Schedule A) | Impacts Due to State Budget Cuts (Schedule B) | Board Approved Base Budget | Department Recommended Funded Adjustments (Schedule C) | 2004-05 Proposed Budget |
| Appropriation | | | | | | | | |
| Services and Supplies | 17,011 | 35,370 | - | - | - | 35,370 | (7,632) | 27,738 |
| Other Charges | <u>1,527,435</u> | <u>1,239,753</u> | <u>90,204</u> | - | - | <u>1,329,957</u> | <u>3,865</u> | <u>1,333,822</u> |
| Total Appropriation | 1,544,446 | 1,275,123 | 90,204 | - | - | 1,365,327 | (3,767) | 1,361,560 |
| Departmental Revenue | | | | | | | | |
| Other Revenue | <u>337,161</u> | <u>330,986</u> | <u>15,251</u> | - | - | <u>346,237</u> | <u>(3,767)</u> | <u>342,470</u> |
| Total Revenue | 337,161 | 330,986 | 15,251 | - | - | 346,237 | (3,767) | 342,470 |
| Local Cost | 1,207,285 | 944,137 | 74,953 | - | - | 1,019,090 | - | 1,019,090 |

It is projected that 2004-05 caseload will increase by 7% in comparison to 2003-04 budget due to the following:

- CalWORKs clients reaching the 5-year aid limit.
- The County's continuing population increase and the availability of affordable housing (including shared living arrangements)
- Clients staying on aid longer because of changes to SSI rules, i.e. drug addicts and alcoholics are not eligible for SSI unless they are in a treatment program.
- Clients staying on aid longer because of the lengthy appeals process for their specific case situations (some clients have been in the appeals process since 2002).

It should be noted that 2004-05 caseload projections are expected to be less than 2003-04 caseload estimates. This is due to efforts by TAD staff to minimize increases in caseload by performing frequent case reviews and carefully monitoring eligibility. Average monthly aid per case is projected to remain the same in comparison to last year.

Revenue collection can vary from year to year due to periodic reimbursements of retroactive SSI payments that are inconsistent from month to month and year to year. It is estimated that revenues will be 3.5% higher in 2004-05.



DEPARTMENT: Aid to Indigents
 FUND: General
 BUDGET UNIT: AAA ATI

SCHEDULE A

MAJOR CHANGES TO THE BUDGET

| | Budgeted Staffing | Appropriation | Departmental Revenue | Local Cost |
|--|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 2003-04 FINAL BUDGET | - | 1,275,123 | 330,986 | 944,137 |
| Cost to Maintain Current Program Services | | | | |
| Salaries and Benefits Adjustments | - | - | - | - |
| Internal Service Fund Adjustments | - | - | - | - |
| Prop 172 | - | - | - | - |
| Other Required Adjustments | - | 90,204 | 15,251 | 74,953 |
| Subtotal | - | 90,204 | 15,251 | 74,953 |
| Board Approved Adjustments During 2003-04 | | | | |
| 30% Spend Down Plan | - | - | - | - |
| Mid-Year Board Items | - | - | - | - |
| Subtotal | - | - | - | - |
| Impacts Due to State Budget Cuts | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL BASE BUDGET | - | 1,365,327 | 346,237 | 1,019,090 |
| Department Recommended Funded Adjustments | - | (3,767) | (3,767) | - |
| TOTAL 2004-05 PROPOSED BUDGET | - | 1,361,560 | 342,470 | 1,019,090 |

SCHEDULE C

DEPARTMENT: Aid to Indigents
 FUND: General
 BUDGET UNIT: AAA ATI

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED FUNDED ADJUSTMENTS

| Brief Description of Program Adjustment | Budgeted Staffing | Appropriation | Departmental Revenue | Local Cost |
|---|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Cost Changes | - | (3,767) | (3,767) | - |
| It is estimated that payments to Inland Valley Legal will slightly decrease and aid payments to clients will slightly increase resulting in \$3,767 overall decrease. | | | | |
| Total | - | (3,767) | (3,767) | - |

